

## **Pesticide Safety Training Series: Introduction<sup>1</sup>**

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Pesticide safety Training series was developed to provide farmers, ranchers, teachers, and agri-businesses with a basic safety education tool. The units can be incorporated into an existing safety training program or used as the foundation for a safety program when one does not exist. The series is not intended to be all inclusive but focuses instead on, what we believe are, the necessary knowledges and skills needed for safe pesticide handling.

The series could be used as a safety training mini-text, or individual units could be used as training guides for specific jobs and/or knowledges. Training could use selected units as the basis for regular tailgate training sessions for all employees or select employees with specific pesticide responsibilities. Asking employees to study an individual unit first followed by a discussion or question and answer session would be another option. Classroom teachers might use the series as a complete unit or as a supplement to a regular unit on pesticides. Including pesticide safety videos will strengthen the total pesticide safety training program. Contact your county extension office for a list of available pesticide safety videos.

Two additional training aids are included:

1. A documentation page which can be used as a permanent pesticide safety training record for each employee. Documentation should help ensure each employee receiving necessary pesticide safety training as well as provide a record, if needed, for legal or governmental purposes.
2. Bilingual summary sheets designed to be cut apart and carried as handy pocket reference guides. Plastic lamination of the guides would enable them to be used several times.

The preceding suggestions should not be taken as the only methods of using these materials. Most importantly, people should adapt and use the information in the way that is best for their particular situation.

Comments or suggestions to improve this series are welcome and every effort will be made to implement feasible suggestions into future revisions.

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1. This document is the introduction to the Pesticide Safety Training Series, University of Arizona, College of Agriculture, Rural Safety Program. Publication date: November 1988.
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